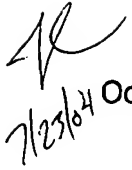


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert the following paragraph before the first line on page 1:

 This application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/973,806 filed October 11, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,691,414.

Please amend the paragraph bridging page 6, line 22 through page 7, line 2 as follows:

The cooled and epoxy-coated rebar 12b is passed through the nip of an opposed set of wet sponges 24a, 24b which are charged with a low voltage for an electrical potential generating unit 24c. Should a hole (colloquially known in this art as a "holiday") or defect ~~occure~~ occur in the coating, an electrical circuit is completed through the rebar which is detected by the alarm unit 24d which causes an audible and/or visual alarm to be generated that may be recorded by the defect recorder unit 24e. As a result, the number of defects of the entirety of the spiraled coated rebar product may be determined.